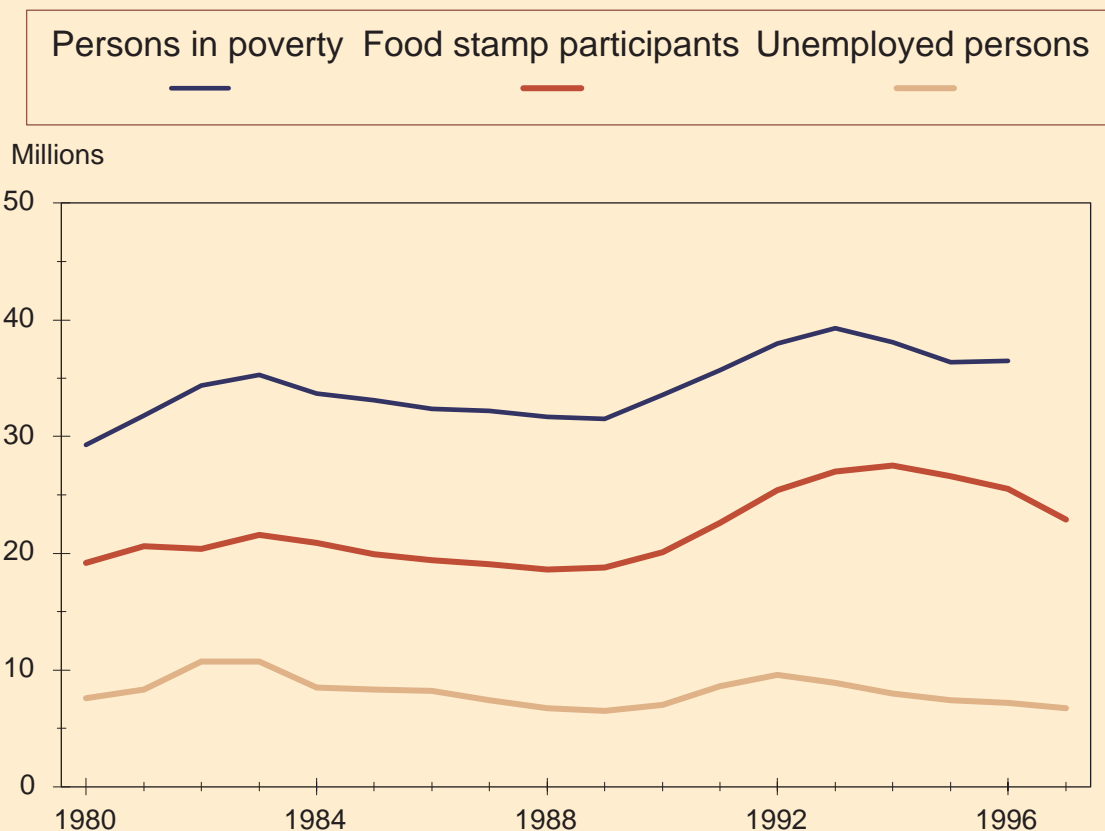


**FIGURE 2**

## Food Stamp Participants, Persons in Poverty, and Unemployed Persons, 1980-97

*Food Stamp participation mirrors economic conditions*



Source: Data on Food Stamp participants are from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service; data on person in poverty are from the Bureau of the Census; data on the unemployed are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.



**TABLE 2. Food stamp participants, persons in poverty, and unemployed persons, 1980-97**

Year	Food stamp participants <sup>1</sup>	Persons in poverty <sup>2</sup>	Unemployed persons <sup>3</sup>
<i>Million persons</i>			
1980	19.2	29.3	7.6
1981	20.6	31.8	8.3
1982	20.4	34.4	10.7
1983	21.6	35.3	10.7
1984	20.9	33.7	8.5
1985	19.9	33.1	8.3
1986	19.4	32.4	8.2
1987	19.1	32.2	7.4
1988	18.6	31.7	6.7
1989	18.8	31.5	6.5
1990	20.1	33.6	7.0
1991	22.6	35.7	8.6
1992	25.4	38.0	9.6
1993	27.0	39.3	8.9
1994	27.5	38.1	8.0
1995	26.6	36.4	7.4
1996	25.5 <sup>4</sup>	36.5	7.2
1997	22.9 <sup>4</sup>		6.7

<sup>1</sup>Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. Data refer to the fiscal year.

<sup>2</sup>Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

<sup>3</sup>Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

<sup>4</sup>Preliminary data.